

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-_____

AN ORDINANCE amending Yakima Municipal Code Section 8.77.030 Creation and establishment of a city tree board.

WHEREAS, the City of Yakima established a tree board ("Yakima Tree Board") in 2016, the requirement of which are now found under Chapter 8.77 of the Yakima Municipal Code; and

WHEREAS, the Yakima Tree Board has specific duties associated with public trees in Yakima, educating the public on public trees, and supporting public tree objectives; and

WHEREAS, the Yakima Tree Board currently is required to seat five (5) members, who shall all be residents of the city with the exception of the member recommended by the Yakima Arboretum, and the City Arborist;

WHEREAS, there has been one open seat on the Board since the middle of 2019, and it has been difficult to find people to fill the Board seat that is open, leaving a situation for the Board where in some months there are not enough members present to have a quorum and conduct business; and

WHEREAS, the work done by the Board could be done just as effectively with additional non-resident tree specialists if necessary; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Yakima finds that it is in the best interest of the City and its residents to amend YMC 8.77.030 to change the residency requirements to allow additional non-residents to serve on the Board if they are tree specialists; now, therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF YAKIMA:

Section 1. Chapter 8.77.030 of the Yakima Municipal Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

8.77.030 Creation and establishment of a city tree board.

There is hereby created and established a tree board for the city of Yakima, Washington, which shall consist of five members. One of the members of the tree board shall be the city arborist. One of the members of the tree board shall be recommended by the Yakima arboretum. At least two of the members shall be tree care specialists. The tree board shall consist of city residents, except in the case of the city arborist, the tree care specialists and the member recommended by the Yakima arboretum. The city should, however, fill the seats on the tree board with city residents when possible.

Section 2. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect 30 days after its passage, approval, and publication by law and by the City Charter.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL, signed and approved this 18th day of February, 2020.

ATTEST:

Patricia Byers, Mayor

Sonya Claar Tee, City Clerk

Publication Date: _____

Effective Date: _____